(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the Times of India of 30th June, 1993 to the effect that Italian Government has advised its nationals intending to visit India to avoid flying by Indian Airlines as it is unsafe;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Italian Ministry of Tourism had circulated a message to their travel agents cautioning against hazards involved in travelling by domestic airlines in India.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the Italian Government asking them to withdraw the message circulated to the travel agents.

Hospital for Bhopal gas leak victims

*152. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court in its judgement on Bhopal gas leak victims, had ordered the Union Carbide Corporation and its Indian subsidiary, the Union Carbide India Limited to bear expenses of building, equipping and operating for mandatory eight years, a special hospital for the treatment of gas leak victims;

(b) whether it is a fact that even after the lapse of about two years of the order the hospital has not come up; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) In their judgement dated the 3rd October, 1991, the Supreme Court had hoped that Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) and Union Carbi India Limited (UCIL) would finance t construction of a 500 bed hospital Bhopal. It was expected that the UC and UCIL would also meet the financi outlay for operating the hospital for period of eight years. The Supren Court had estimated a total requireme of Rs. 50 crores for both these purpose

Government commissioned the Hospit Services Consultancy Corporation Lt (HSCCL) to undertake a feasibility stu for setting up the hospital. The estim ted outlay for the hospital was foun to be Rs. 98—106 crores. Funds ha not yet been placed at the disposal the Government by the companies. Th Government is approaching the Supren Court for the purpose.

Recession in tyre industry

*153. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be plea ed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dome tic tyre industry has been facing rece sionary trends for the last five years o account of cut-back in vehicle productio in the country;

(b) if so, what is the production tyres in the country during the last thre years, year-wise and vehicle-wise;

(c) whether production of various cate gories of tyres is sufficient to meet ind genous demand of various segments;

(d) whether Government propose take steps to improve the current situa tion of tyre industry; if so, the detail thereof; and

(e) what are the reasons which pro mpted Government to allow original equip ment vehicle manufacturer to impor tyres at a concessional import duty o 50 per cent rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THI MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPART MENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP MENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE

OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FO INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) There has been some decline in production of some categories of vehicles during the past two years but no corresponding recessionary trends in the production of tyres have been noticed. In fact, overall tyre production for important categories of vehicles both for domestic use and exports is on the increase.

(b) The production of tyres during the last three years, year-wise and vehicle-wise was as under:—

Type of Vehicle	Production for domestic use and exports (In lakhs)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1. Truck and Bus	52.58	54.98	62.69
2. Light Commercial Vehicles	8.70	7.46	9.02
3. Jeep;	5.96	5.08	6.03
4. Cars	24.72	21.00	23.04
5. Tractors	11.78	11.77	12.73
6. Scooters	44.66	44.82	45.90
7. Moped	5.55	6.99	11.22
8. Motor Cycles	19.61	17.80	19.07

(c) Yes, Sir. No shortage of tyres has been reported.

(d) It is the endeavour of the Government to boost production of quality tyres so as to exploit export potential as well as to meet the domestic demand at reasonable prices.

(e) Original equipment manufacturers are allowed import of tyres at concessional rate of import duty of 50 per cent with a view to boost export and domestic demand of vehicles. Also, the availability of tyres to original equipment manufacturers at reasonable prices is ensured.

Hijacking of aeroplanes

*154. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of planes hijacked during the last two years, airport-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to give fresh look at airport security incidents;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether there was a proposal to induct CISF at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi; and

(e) if not, the reasons behind non-induction of CISF at IGI Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Four planes were hijacked during the last two years. Two of these were hijacked after departure from Lucknow airport and two from Delhi airport.

(b) to (e) An Export Group has been set up to review the existing security system comprehensively with a view to making it more efficient and effective. The Group will examine in this connection setting up of a dedicated Force for Aviation Security and make suitable recommendations.